Docket No.: 0020-5166P

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Takaaki ISSHIKI et al.

Application No.: 10/642,591

Confirmation No.: 2938

Filed: August 19, 2003

Art Unit: 3773

For: THROMBUS CAPTURE CATHETER

Examiner: J. R. OU

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

June 15, 2009

MS AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed March 16, 2009, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application. This Paper includes

Amendments to the Specification,

Amendments to the Claims,

Amendments to the Drawings,

Remarks, and

Three sheets of Replacement Drawings (FIGS. 3, 5, and 13).

JMS/CTT/ktp

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP